CLEARINGHOUSE

API Operational Test and Evaluation Platform (API OT&E platform)

User manual

VERSION 1.3

AUGUST 28TH 2013

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1. INTRODUCTION

This User Manual contains all essential information for the user to make full use of the API Operational Test and Evaluation Platform (API OT&E platform). This manual includes a description of the platform, its functions, capabilities and step-by-step procedures for conducting a test for the API.

1.1. Overview of the API OT&E platform

The Trademark Clearinghouse is a global repository for trademark data, designed to meet global needs for the domain name system (DNS), the Trademark Clearinghouse:

- Verifies trademark data from multiple global regions.
- Maintains the verified trademark record database.

The TMCH project created an automated interface to allow users to interact with the data stored in the Clearinghouse database (TMCH database). This automated interface (API) has been created to exchange data with the TMCH database. The API OT&E platform is a test platform to test the API without the risk of disturbing the production platform.

1.2. The intended audience for this document

This user manual is intended for users that are involved in the mark registration processes. These users are trademark agents that have a contract with the Clearinghouse and have been provided access to the automated interface (API) for their data exchange.

It is assumed that the users are already familiar with the current API production environment. This manual will therefore focus on the differences between the production environment and the test environment.

1.3. User manual overview

This manual contains the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: Introduction to the TMCH database, the related API, the API OT&E platform and its users.
- Chapter 2: General overview of the web-based API OT&E platform.
- Chapter 3: Explanation of how to set up an API test.
- Chapter 4: Further background and reference information.

Please note that the project is still under development and thus subject to change. The screens described in this document may vary from the actual final screens.

1.4. Referenced documents

The following documents are referenced in this user manual:

Refnr	Document	Version	Datum	Auteur
1	TMCH Automated interface (API)	1.1.3.	25-04-2013	J. Jansen
2	TMCH functional specifications	5	16-04-2013	G. Lozano, B. Hoeneisen
3	Sunrise and Claim processes functional analysis	1.2.	29-04-2013	j-L Defay
3	TMCH Sunrise & Claims Architecture	0.13	23-05-2013	J.W. Fonk

2. THE API OT&E PLATFORM

This chapter provides a general overview of the web-based API OT&E platform. It explains how to gain access to the platform and how the platform differs from the production platform

2.1. Logging on to the API OT&E platform

The API OT&E web platform can be reached by the following URL or IP addresses:

APP: 91.198.126.137 or **https://ote-agents.trademark-clearinghouse.com**

API: 91.198.126.138 port 7700 with TLS

All validated agents will receive an API OT&E web platform test account by email. The API OT&E platform does not have the option for additional users to register. (Test) users are generated automatically.

Subject: OT&E Agent Registration process - Your sign in details

Dear <tmpl_var name="name">,

Thank you for completing the Trademark Agent registration process, you are now also granted access to the **OT&E API environment**.

The OT&E Web interface can be accessed via "https://ote-agents.trademark-clearinghouse.com"
The OT&E API Interface can be accessed via "91.198.xxx.xxx:7700" using TCP/TLS.

Your credentials to access the OT&E environment are:

- Username : <tmpl_var name="userid">
- Password : <tmpl_var name="password">

Please note that this is a test platform for which we:

- do not provide a warranty on the security layer;
- strongly recommend the use of dummy data only;
- do not provide a data migration path to production;
- do not guarantee error or bug free operations.

Additional information regarding the OT&E environment can be found on our website trademark-clearinghouse.com in the help/download section.

Please use the ticketing system available on the Clearinghouse User Interface to submit any issues or questions. We look forward to receiving your comments.

We thank you for your trust.

The Clearinghouse

Please do not reply to this e-mail address. If you should have any queries, then please submit your questions through the ticketing system available on the Clearinghouse User Interface.

This is an authentic e-mail notification from the Clearinghouse Verification Provider, a part of the Trademark Clearinghouse: the central repository for verified brands for the purpose of protecting brands in ICANN's new gTLD program.

Figure 1: Example of a test account sent by email

The test username is derived from the existing username: The "u" prefix of the existing username is replaced by "t" prefix in the test username. The generated password is fixed and cannot be changed (The change password link is omitted on the API OT&E platform). If any support is required regarding the access to the API OT&E platform, it must be made via the production platform.

2.2. Differences with the production platform

The new API OT&E platform differs from the production platform in appearance and functionality:

- To avoid users mistaking the test environment for the production environment, warnings and different colours are used to indicate that they are not in the production platform.
- The API OT&E web platform has limited functionality
  - Incidents cannot be raised on the API OT&E platform. A request for support must be made on the production platform.
  - No registration is available via the web interface. The register button is omitted.
  - No change password functionality is available. The change password button is omitted.
  - The API OT&E platform is intended to exchange data with another automated system. Manually uploading data using the web client is not supported.

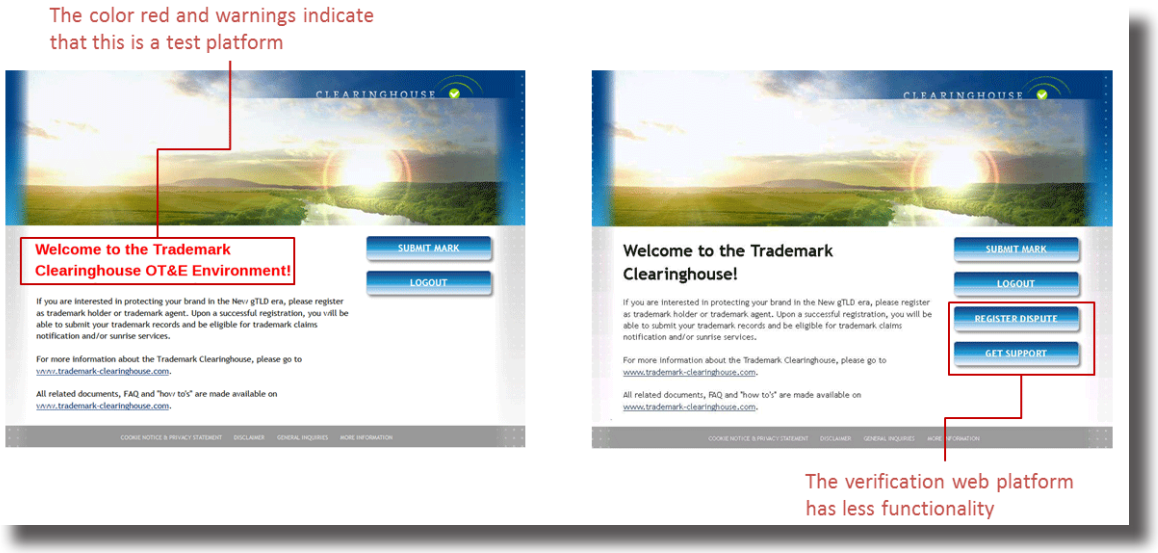
The color red and warnings indicate that this is a test platform
Welcome to the Trademark Clearinghouse OT&E Environment!
SUBMIT MARK
LOGOUT
Welcome to the Trademark Clearinghouse!
SUBMIT MARK
LOGOUT
REGISTER DISPUTE
GET SUPPORT
The verification web platform has less functionality

Figure 2: Differences between the production and API OT&E platform

3. TESTING USING THE API OT&E PLATFORM

This chapter describes the step-by-step procedures for conducting API tests. These procedures can be divided in the following generic steps:

1. Configuring the connections
2. Performing the test
3. Test validation

3.1. Configuring the connections

After you are logged on to the API OT&E platform you can navigate to the API settings page via "my account" => "API settings". Here you can configure your connection to exchange information with the TMCH test database through the test API.

On the API settings screen, you can configure your connections with the TMCH test database. Several values are required to configure the connection:

- An IP address to access API. This IP address is then registered as a "safe" IP address to which the TMCH test database will communicate. The IP address which you configure is filled in as a default value.
- A password for this connection (to be entered twice)

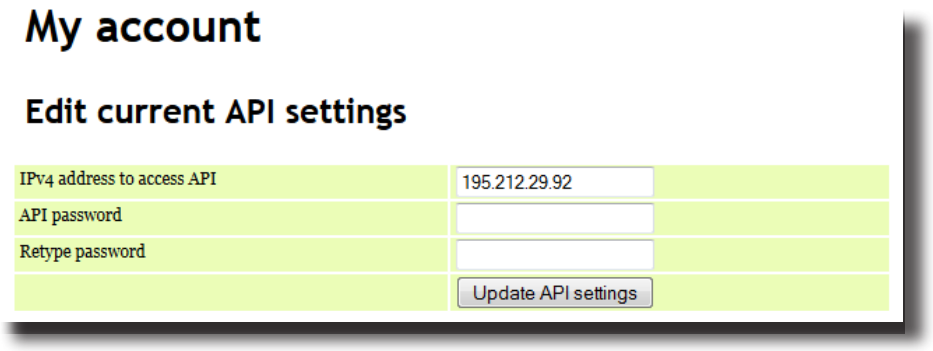

Figure 3: Snapshot of the API settings screen for configuring the API connection

Once your connection has been configured, you can create sessions with the TMCH test database. To create a new session, you can use API commands described in the Clearinghouse TMCH Automated interface manual, such as; PP login, PP logout, PP hello (to keep the session alive). Specific information about these API commands can be found in the Clearinghouse TMCH Automated interface manual.

3.2. Performing the test

Once the connection has been configured, users can execute the test by entering trademarks (marks) into the API OT&E. The data exchange with the TMCH test database uses XML formats as described in the Clearinghouse TMCH Automated interface manual. The necessary API commands used are similar to the ones described in the Clearinghouse TMCH Automated interface manual.

Various tests have been designed in order to test the connections with the API OT&E. All trademarks will be accepted and processed. The domain convention will determine how the "marks" are processed. Three scenarios are possible:

- Mark names containing the string "VERIFIED" are processed according to test scenario 1, described in paragraph 3.2.1.
- Mark names containing the string "INCORRECT" are processed according to test scenario 2, described in paragraph 3.2.2.
- Mark names containing the string "INVALID" are processed according to test scenario 3, described in paragraph 3.2.3.
- Proof Of Use (POU) files belonging to a specific mark name with a filename containing the string "VALID" are processed according to test scenario 4, described in paragraph 3.2.4.
- Proof Of Use (POU) files belonging to a specific mark name with a filename containing the string "INCORRECT" are processed according to test scenario 4, described in paragraph 3.2.5.
- Proof Of Use (POU) files belonging to a specific mark name with a filename containing the string "INVALID" are processed according to test scenario 4, described in paragraph 3.2.6.

Marks that have no labels that contain the strings "VERIFIED", "INCORRECT" or "INVALID" will be processed as "VERIFIED" according to test scenario 1. POU files that have filenames that do not contain the strings "VALID", "INCORRECT" or "INVALID" will be processed as "VERIFIED" according to test scenario 4.

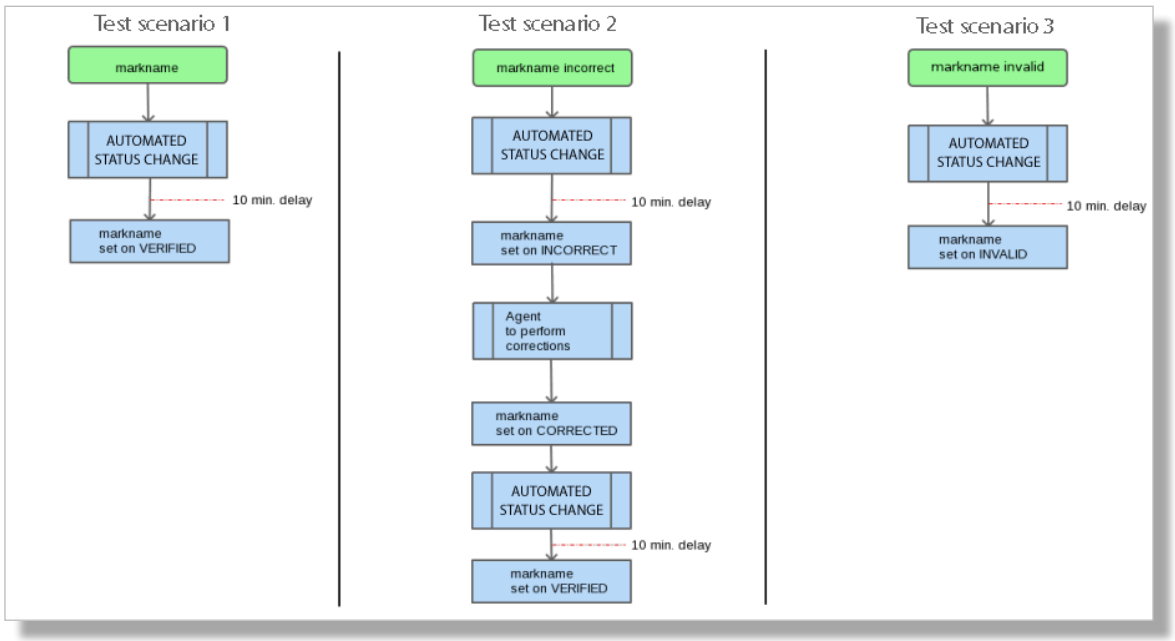

Figure 4: The flow of different test scenarios

3.2.1. *Test scenario 1: The mark has been verified.*

In order to test the process of a (correct) mark being accepted, you can enter a mark into the API with a label containing the string "VERIFIED".

After a 10 minute delay, the mark will be processed and you may check the status by reading the messages received via the poll message and verify whether the mark has been approved. When the mark has been approved the mark name is set to "VERIFIED" in the TMCH test database.

3.2.2. *Test scenario 2: The mark needs to be corrected.*

In order to test the process of an incorrect mark being rejected, you can enter a mark into the API with a label containing the string "INCORRECT".

After a 10 minute delay, the mark will be processed and you may check the status by reading the messages received via the poll message in order to verify whether the mark has been approved. In case of an incorrect mark, when the mark is not approved, the mark name is set to "INCORRECT" in the TMCH test database.

When a mark has not been approved, you can undertake the following steps:

- In order to find out the reason, generate the "info" command allowing you to see your mark data including the validator's comments (which should guide you to make the corrections in the production platform).
- You can correct the mark by issuing the API "update" command. This is only possible for marks with an "INCORRECT" status.
- Once the update is completed successfully (after a 10 minute delay) the mark will be processed and you may check the status again by reading the messages received via the poll message. When the mark is correct, and approved, the mark name is set to "VERIFIED" in the TMCH test database.

(All API commands mentioned above are described in the Clearinghouse TMCH Automated interface manual)

3.2.3. *Test scenario 3: The mark is invalid.*

In order to test the process of an invalid mark being rejected, you can enter a mark into the API with a label containing the string "INVALID".

After a 10 minute delay, the mark will be processed and you may check the status by reading the messages received via the poll message and verify whether the mark has been approved. In case of an invalid mark, the mark will not be approved and the name is set to "INVALID" in the TMCH test database. Also, if you submit one or multiple POU files for an invalid mark, no POU file will be validated.

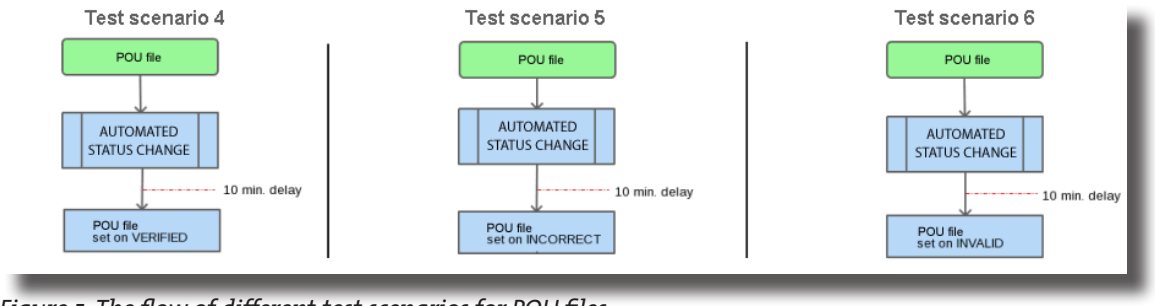

Figure 5: The flow of different test scenarios for POU files

3.2.4. *Test scenario 4: The Proof of Use file is valid.*

In order to test the process of a (correct) POU file being accepted, you can enter a POU into the API with filename containing the string "VALID".

After a 10 minute delay, the POU file will be processed and you may check it´s status by reading the messages received via the poll message and verify whether the POU file has been approved. When the POU file has been approved the POU is set to "VALID" in the TMCH test database. If you submit multiple POU files for a specific mark, only the last file is validated.

3.2.5. *Test scenario 5: The Proof of Use file is incorrect.*

In order to test the process of a (correct) POU file being rejected, you can enter a POU into the API with filename containing the string "INCORRECT".

After a 10 minute delay, the POU file will be processed and you may check it´s status by reading the messages received via the poll message and verify whether the POU file has been approved. In case of an incorrect POU file, the POU file will not be approved and the POU is set to "INCORRECT" in the TMCH test database. If you submit multiple POU files for a specific mark, only the last file is validated.

3.2.6. *Test scenario 6: The Proof of Use file is invalid.*

In order to test the process of a invalid POU file being rejected, you can enter a POU into the API with filename containing the string "INVALID".

After a 10 minute delay, the POU file will be processed and you may check it´s status by reading the messages received via the poll message and verify whether the POU file has been approved. When the POU file has been approved, the POU file will not be approved and the POU is set to "INVALID" in the TMCH test database. If you submit multiple POU files for a specific mark, only the last file is validated.

4. APPENDIX

This section contains additional background and reference information.

4.1. Frequently asked questions

The most requested questions regarding the API OT&E platform:

QUESTION: *Do I need to register for a test account?*

ANSWER: No, Verified Agents in TMCH will automatically receive a test account to access the API OT&E platform.

QUESTION: *I have lost my password for my test account, how can I retrieve it?*

ANSWER: The change password button is omitted in the API OT&E platform. You can retrieve your password by raising an incident via the production platform.

QUESTION: *Can I use the same machine (IP address) to access the test environment and the production environment?*

ANSWER: Yes, This IP address is then registered as a 'safe' IP address to which both the API OT&E platform and the TMCH production platform may communicate.

QUESTION: *Can I import into the TMCH production platform the data I have generated while doing tests in the API OT&E platform?*

ANSWER: No, there is no link between the two platforms.

4.2. Glossary

Term	Description
API	Application Programming Interface. An application programming interface (API) that specifies how software components interact with each other. In practice, an API is a library that usually includes specification for routines, data structures, object classes, and variables.
API OT&E platform	A test platform to test the TMCH API without the risk of disturbance on the production platform.
CRL	Certificate Revocation List
DN	Domain Name
DNS	Domain Name System
DNL	Domain Name Label
IDN	Internationalized Domain Names
Label	The domain name without its TLD extension
SMD	Signed Mark Data: A cryptographically signed token issued by the TMV to the TMH to be used in the Sunrise Period in order to apply for a domain name that matches a DNL of a PRM
SMD File	A file containing the SMD (see above) and includes readable data. The latter is usually ignored in the processing of the SMD File.
SMDM Manager	An entity managing the SMD's, mainly maintaining lists of revoked SMD's
SMD Revocation List	The SMD revocation list is used by registries (and optionally by registrars) during the Sunrise Period to ensure that an SMD is still valid (i.e. not revoked). The SMD revocation list has a similar function as CRL's used in the Public Key Infrastructure (PKI).
TLD	Top Level Domain
TMCH	Trademark Clearing House is an ICANN central repository for information to be authenticated stored and disseminated, pertaining to the rights of trademark holders.
TMH	Trademark Holder: The person or organization owning rights on a Trademark.
TMV	TMV, Trademark Validator, Trademark validation organization is an entity authorized by ICANN to authenticate and validate registrations of trademarks (registered trademarks, court-validated marks or marks that are protected by statute or treaty) for protection during sunrise and claim period. This organization also ensures that proof of mark usage is provided, which can be demonstrated by furnishing a signed declaration and a current example of trade mark usage.
Mark, Trademark	Marks (trademarks) are used to claim exclusive property rights of products and/or services. A mark is typically a name, word, phrase, logo, symbol, design, image, or a combination of these elements. Registered Trademarks/Court Validated Marks/ Marks are protected by statute or treaty.
POU	Proof Of Use: A file that contains evidence of ownership of a mark name. These files may be in .PDF or .JPG format.
PRM	Pre-registered mark: Mark that has been pre-registered with the TMCH.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

5.1. Document information

Subject	API Operational Test and Evaluation Platform (API OT&E platform)
Client	IBM GTS/Deloitte
Author	Wouter Schenk
Date	28-08-2013
Status	Official version
Version	1.3

5.2. Changes

Version	Date	Author	Summary changes
0.1	30-06-2013	Wouter Schenk	Initial version
0.2	01-07-2013	Wouter Schenk	Small changes after informal review
0.3	02-07-2013	JP Roulleaux	Review and comments
0.4	02-07-2013	Earl Stroex-Carr	Review & proof-read
0.5	03-07-2013	Wouter Schenk	Several changes after review & latest screens
1.0	04-07-2013	Wouter Schenk	Several changes after review Deloitte
1.1	11-07-2013	Wouter Schenk	Several changes after comments Deloitte
1.2	15-07-2013	Wouter Schenk	Several changes after review
1.3	28-07-2013	Wouter Schenk	Additional tests described